

**MONTHLY REPORT OF
RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS**

HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA:**Pocatello, Idaho****REPORT FOR:****MONTH: November YEAR: 2004****TO:**

Hydrologic Operations Division, W/OH2
 National Weather Service
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

SIGNATURE

Sherrie Hebert:

(In Charge of Hydrologic Service Area)

DATE December 15, 2004

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).

X

An X in this box indicates that no flooding has occurred for the month within this hydrologic service area.

After record-breaking October precipitation, November fell to one of the driest on record for a number of Eastern Idaho stations. The low November precipitation further adds to the continuing six-year drought, making recovery efforts that much more difficult.

Other Hydrologic Interests**Precipitation**

October precipitation for the Pocatello HSA was 40.6% of normal for 41 of 42 reporting stations with climate data, according to Western Region Climate Center data. Of those stations, four tied or broke November low precipitation records with a trace or 0.00 inches of precipitation. The stations are below.

Station Name	Normal (inches)	Percent of Normal	Year
Arco	0.70	0.00	1953
Dubois	0.90	0.00	1939
Hamer	0.66	0.00	1959
Rexburg BYU	1.17	0.00	1993

More than half of the Pocatello HSA stations received less than 30% of normal November precipitation, with all except one receiving less than 75%. The only station receiving near normal precipitation was Lifton with 0.76 inches at 97.4%.

The following November daily precipitation records were set at the Pocatello Regional Airport.

November 27: 0.28 inches of rainfall broke the 1979 record of 0.21 inches

November 30: 2.3 inches of snowfall broke the 1948 record of 2.1 inches

Reservoirs

The Upper Snake River reservoir system is at 27% of capacity¹, up 11% from November 4, 2004.

Reservoir	% Capacity October 31²	% Capacity November 30³	Percent Change	% of Average³	% of Last Year³
American Falls	4	31	27	62	131
Blackfoot	n/a	7	7	12	138
Henry's Lake	66	68	2	76	96
Island Park	25	44	19	68	121
Little Wood	n/a	25	25	68	119
Mackay	n/a	22	22	54	139
Magic	n/a	8	8	21	107
Oakley	n/a	10	10	32	156
Palisades	24	30	6	41	127
Ririe	32	36	4	89	110
Lake Walcott	31 ⁴	18 ⁵	-13	n/a	n/a

Source: (1) US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), December 14, 2004; (2) BOR, November 4, 2004; (3) NRCS, November 30, 2004; (4) BOR, November 4, 2004; (5) BOR, December 14, 2004.

Drought

Eastern Idaho continues to rank entirely in the D3, "Extreme" and D4, "Exceptional" categories on the US Drought Monitor. Low soil moisture, low SWSI values and above-normal temperature and below-normal precipitation outlooks leave little to no room for relief in the near future.

Current Emergency Drought Declarations for 2004 include all 17 Eastern Idaho counties of the 24 declared statewide. The first county declared was Clark County on April 14 and the most recent being Minidoka County on September 22.

October 2004 Hydrologic Product Summary

Product	Number Issued
Flash Flood Warning	0
Flood Watch for Flash Flooding	0
Flood Warning	0
Flood Watch	0
Urban and/or Small Stream Flood Warning	0
Urban and/or Small Stream Flood Advisory	0
Flood Statement	0
Hydrologic Statement	0
Hydrologic Outlook	0
NOW or Special Weather Statement (with information related to flooding)	0
Local Storm Report related to flooding	0

cc: Melissa Smith, WFO Hydrology Program Manager
Harold Opitz, HIC NWRFC
Hydrometeorological Information Center
Jim Meyer, MIC PIH
Jay Breidenbach, SH BOI
Greg Kaiser, Storm Data Focal Point PIH